

# Goodwin's Weekly

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## Greetings

**M**ONDAY next will be another New Year's day; another mile station will have to be erected on this isthmus that separated the two eternities.

The year has been one of peace and health to our country, no cloud of war on the sky, no pestilence on the air. There have been bountiful crops in field and orchard; the mines have yielded more than their accustomed revenue; there should have been unmatched prosperity everywhere and would have been had our law makers but used the wisdom and courage to have made such regulations as seem to ordinary people to be plainly needed.

The American people now number close upon one hundred million of souls; our country has become one of the potential powers of the earth and our people should keep up with their duties in the expansion into what should be in half a century more the mightiest nation that ever the world has produced.

On this day the Happy New Years should ring out everywhere over our land. Some men make resolutions on New Year's day. It would be well if we all would resolve to be better citizens than we were last year.

The safety of our republic does not rest upon the class of men we send to make our laws, but upon how the laws are enforced, the poor looked after, the schools conducted in each locality. To have these things properly attended to is one of a citizen's constant duty. And every citizen is included.

When in every locality every resident shall hold this duty imperative upon himself; then the country will advance in power and majesty continually, despite all the mistakes that may be made in Washington, for then this will be a government of the people, by the people and for the people in truth, and God will smile upon such a government.

Today it is a joy to issue happy New Year greetings to all our friends and bespeak for them prosperity and peace and happiness for all the year to come.

## The Change Of Government

**N**EXT week Salt Lake City will pass under a commission form of government. The passing of the measure was a job, which had it been attacked at the right time and in the right way, our belief is, would have been declared a shameful usurpation and fraud. But the change will be made and we shall all watch with interest its results.

We ought, too, in watching its workings, to keep in mind that those in charge will have a difficult task to perform, and that they are entitled to the full support of the people in all honest efforts to so adjust the requirements of their office as to lead to the furthering of the city's best interests. This is especially the duty of the newspapers.

The feeling that the people of the city are in sympathy with the officers will give them the inspiration to do their best, and we will all begin the new year with the hope that 1912 will be a year of prosperity and peace to our city.

## The World—A Brief Review

**T**HE record of the world during the year that is just closing, is not encouraging to evangelists of peace.

Great Britain, France and Germany just escaped a devastating war which seemed imminent for several weeks.

Italy has entered upon a war of conquest in northern Africa, which has already measured up largely in bloodshed and cruelty.

Russia, sustained morally by Great Britain, has begun her conquest of Persia, and is carrying it on through the ancient Asian methods of pitiless cruelty.

China is convulsed by a civil war, fierce and merciless in execution, and the mighty empire seems on the verge of anarchy.

The king and queen of the United Kingdom have gone to India and amid a magnificent display of barbaric splendor have been crowned emperor and empress of that vast region.

Australasia has been at peace and has enjoyed more prosperity than in any year for a decade passed.

Canada—our Daughter of the Snows—has been much in evidence during the year passed.

She has drawn to her 100,000 American settlers from our northwestern states, the lure being her cheap lands. Her premier with our secretary of state and Great Britain's ambassador to the United States arranged a reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States which our senate ratified, but when it was submitted to Canada a mighty excitement was worked up and it was rejected with scorn by our northern neighbors.

That a vast majority of them did not know what they were voting for or against did not in the least mar the marvelous triumph which a great many of them are still hugging themselves for winning.

Mexico has been torn with war for a year past. Madero started a revolution which drove the venerable Diaz from the presidency and into exile. An election was held and Madero elected president, but he is confronted with revolutions in half a dozen states which he is making the best fight he can to put down, and our belief is that if he escapes assassination he will eventually succeed, but the people of Mexico seem to be like the Mexican mountains—mostly of volcanic origin, and the tyranny and ignorance of two hundred years of misrule, have left Mexico in such a state that redemption seems almost hopeless.

A syndicate in the east has obtained a concession from Honduras and Nicaragua, the terms of which we have never been able to learn, but the matter has a look as though the syndicate has

virtually agreed to maintain a stable government in those states. If that is true there may be at least a few years of quiet for those distracted states.

In South America there have been rumors of war between Colombia and Ecuador, and between Peru and Chile. It is said that Castro, with a few followers, is trying to kindle a revolution in Venezuela, but he does not seem to be making much headway.

In the three stable states, Brazil, Argentina and Chile, much progress has been marked; the first two at least are taking on the attributes of nations. Buenos Ayres and Rio are each becoming a most potential city.

Our own country has been signally blessed with health and peace, and the harvest from field and orchard and mine has been an astonishment to the world. All the same there has been a depression in business in every state, due to a most imperfect financial system, and to the failure on the part of our government to take effective measures to restore our flag to the sea, and to get in closer direct trade relations with the nations of the earth.

But great work has been performed at home and the Panama canal has reached a point where the engineers can compute when it will be ready for use.

The western states have been much annoyed by the conservatism of Roosevelt and Pinchot.

The flag on next Fourth of July will have two added stars for Arizona and New Mexico, which have at last been added to the Union.

Alaska would be most prosperous if the government would give up certain of its fads and give that territory a chance. The coming year will witness another presidential election and we fear that congress is thinking more of that than of the immediate wants of the people.

But the year has accentuated the truth that there is no other land in all the world so blessed as our own, and the "Happy New Year" on Monday next ought to ring out joyously from a hundred million of thankful men and women; thankful that they have been given homes in a land so blessed as ours.

## England At A Disadvantage

**I**N 1907 Russia and Great Britain made a trade alliance, by which Russia was to have the trade of northern Persia and Great Britain the southern half and that of the two states lying between Persia and India. In the same agreement the autonomy of Persia was guaranteed. Now Russia is reaching out to absorb that part over which the trade treaty extends.

Some of the very strongest men in parliament are fighting this aggression on Russia's part, but what can England do? She could easily make an agreement with Turkey and with her fleet blockade the Dardanelles, thus shutting out the merchant ships of Russia from coming out or going in to the Black Sea. That would suit Turkey and Mohammedans everywhere, but it would mean a war with Russia and in that event what would Germany be doing? Then Germany is pushing a railroad through ancient Palestine and it is said to desire to drive it east as far as Teheran. It is one of her dreams to restore that most famous and interesting region, bring back the ancient fertility of the soil through irrigation and command its trade. And she is watching and is in a posi-